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Reply to: Jacksonville, FL

Friday - December 7, 2001

## SECOND SUPERSEDING INDICTMENT NAMES AN ADDITIONAL 18 DEFENDANTS IN DEFRAUDING MCDONALD'S CORPORATION AND IT'S CUSTOMERS IN PROMOTIONAL PRIZE CONTESTS

Jacksonville - United States Attorney Mac Cauley today announced the filing of a second superseding indictment in Jacksonville U.S. District Court naming an additional 18 individuals who are charged with defrauding the McDonald's Corporation and it's customers in a promotional prize contest. The 18 are indicted in a conspiracy to commit mail fraud carrying a maximum sentence of five years in prison, a \$250,000 fine and restitution.

The original indictment was filed on September 10, 2001, and named 21 individuals. A superseding indictment was filed on November 8, 2001 naming an additional 12 defendants. Of the 51 defendants thus far indicted, eight have pled guilty to a single count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud. (See attachment for those newly indicted and those that have pled guilty)

This investigation was initiated by the Jacksonville Office of the FBI. In addition, the McDonald's Corporation has continued to provide essential assistance in the investigation. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mark Devereaux of the Middle District of Florida. An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

## **Indictment Attachment**

The following individuals were named in a second superseding indictment made public on December 7, 2001, and they were charged with one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud:

Jeffrey Astor	age 50	Crugers, NY
Michael Berry	age 47	Bradhead, KY
Peter M. Berusch	.age 56	Lawrenceville, GA
Ryan Callahan	.age 25	Summerville, SC
Partrick J. Currie	.age 46	Covington, KY
Thomas Lambert	age 55	Bowling Green, OH
John Lavolpa	age 42	Boardman, OH
Werner Liang	age 48	Williamstad, Curacao,
		Netherlands Antilles
Robert MacPherson	age 39	Chicago. IL
Lee Ester McCoy	age 39	Columbia, SC
Daniel W. Osborne	age 59	Metairie, LA
Robert L. Pearl	age 43	Bayville, NY
Roger Skarin	age 52	Roswell, GA
Richard Sokulsky	age 51	Reseda, CA
Harold Taber	age 46	Omaha, NE
Bernard Weintraub	age 53	Miami, FL
Kevin J. Whitfield	age 38	Savannah, GA
Adam Zucker	age 54	Miami, FL

The following individuals were named in a superseding indictment made public on November 8, 2001, and they were charged with one count of conspiracy to commit mail:

Donald Hart	age 64	.Atlanta, Georgia	
Mark Schwartz	age 44	.North Miami, Florida	
Jerome Pearl	age 54	North Lauderdale, Florida	
Gary David Pincus	age 42	Bettendorf, Iowa	
William Mikey Thomas	age 49	Eclactic, Alabama	
Darold F. Browning	age 45	Syracuse, Utah	
John Henderson	age 50	Las Vegas, Nevada	
Carl H. Maine	.age 48	Dover, Deleware	
Stanley Evosevich	age 60	Jamul, California	
Eric Posnan	age 52	Jamison, Pennsylvania	
Patrick Doran	age 34	Mahwak, New Jersey	
Joel Carl	age 55	Folly Beach, South Carolina	
The following individuals have plead guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud:			
William R. Fisher	age 62	Jacksonville, Florida	
Gloria Brown	age 43	Jacksonville, Florida	
Marvin Braun	age 58	Coral Gables, Florida	
	age 58 age 37		
Stacy L. Breegle		Fredericksburg, Virginia	
Stacy L. Breegle	age 37	Fredericksburg, Virginia	
Stacy L. Breegle  Michael L. Hoover  Linda Baker	age 37age 56age 48	Fredericksburg, Virginia	

NOTE: THIS IS THE ORIGINAL INDICTMENT PRESS RELEASE ISSUED ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2001

## TWENTY ONE INDIVIDUALS INDICTED FOR DEFRAUDING MCDONALD'S CORP. AND ITS CUSTOMERS IN PROMOTIONAL PRIZE CONTEST

Jacksonville, FL - United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida, Mac Cauley, today announced the return of an indictment in U.S. District Court in Jacksonville, FL, naming 21-individuals who are charged with conspiracy to commit mail fraud in a nationwide scheme to defraud the McDonald's Corporation and its customers by fraudulently manipulating McDonald's promotional prize contests. The indictment alleges that as far back as the late 1980's, Jerome P. Jacobson, Director of Security for Simon Marketing Inc., embezzled more than \$20 million worth of high value winning McDonald's promotional game pieces from his employer. The indictment further alleges Jacobson then distributed the winning game pieces to individuals who personally redeemed the game pieces or acted as recruiters and who thereafter, recruited friends, relatives and associates to fraudulently represent themselves as legitimate winners of high-value winning McDonald's promotional game pieces, some of which were valued at \$1 million. Simon Marketing Inc., is headquartered in Los Angeles, California, and has offices in the Atlanta, Georgia, area where Jacobson worked. Simon Marketing Inc., was contracted by McDonald's to administer its promotional games. In addition to the conspiracy charge, Jacobson is charged with eight additional counts of mail fraud.

The FBI investigation called operation "Final Answer" examined games marketed by Simon Marketing Inc., that were alleged to have been "fixed". Those games included:

"Monopoly Game at McDonald's"

"Hatch, Match, and Win"

"When the USA Wins, You Win"

"The Deluxe Monopoly Game"

"The Monopoly and More Game at McDonald's"

"Disney's Masterpiece Collection Trivia Challenge at McDonald's"

"Who Wants to be a Millionaire Game"

"Win on the Spot"

"Pick Your Prize Monopoly"

The investigation was initiated by the Jacksonville Office of the FBI. Numerous FBI field offices throughout the United States have assisted in this continuing investigation.

McDonald's provided essential assistance in the investigation and has cooperated fully with the FBI and the United States Attorney's Office in the Middle District of Florida.

Conspiracy to commit mail fraud is a violation of Title 18 U.S. Code, Section 1341, which is a violation of Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 371. The maximum penalty for committing a single count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud is five years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and restitution.

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mark Devereaux.

Names and charges of those indicted:

Jerome P. Jacobson.....age 58....Lawrenceville, Georgia one count conspiracy and eight counts mail fraud Robin Lisa Colombo......age 40...Orlando, Florida one count conspiracy and seven counts mail fraud William R. Fisher......age 62...Jacksonville, Florida one count conspiracy and five counts mail fraud Gloria Brown......age 43...Jacksonville, Florida one count conspiracy and two counts mail fraud Andrew M. Glomb......age 58...Ft. Lauderdale, Florida one count conspiracy and one count mail fraud James P. Faherty......age 40...Orlando, Florida one count conspiracy and one count mail fraud

Each of following are charged with one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud:

Marvin Braun.....age 58...Coral Gables, Florida

Stacy L. Breegle.....age 37...Fredericksburg, Virginia

George Chandler.....age 29...Westminster, South Carolina

Wiley R. Couturier.....age 59...Marietta, Georgia

John F. Davis.....age 44....Granburg, Texas

Michael L. Hoover.....age 56....Westerly, Rhode Island

Ronald E. Hughey.....age 56....Anderson, South Carolina

Jerry Lee Kenny.....age 42....Front Royal, Virginia

Linda Baker.....age 48....Westminster, South Carolina

Noah Dwight Baker, Sr....age 49....Westminster, South Carolina

Brenda S. Phenis.....age 50....Westminster, South Carolina

Victor E. Marchitello.....age 52.....Harrison City, Pennsylvania

Steven L. Sinder.....age 55....Rye Brook, New York

Earl Stuart.....age 67....Miami, Florida

Stanley Warwick.....age 69....Burr Ridge, Illinois